

comprise the amendments suggested by the Examiner to facilitate allowance of the application by incorporating the subject matter of the base claims into the allowable dependent claims. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested since it does not raise any new issues and will not entail a further search or consideration.

In view of the foregoing amendments and discussion, the application is now believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of the amendment together with favorable reconsideration and allowance of the claims are most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below.

Bruce L. Adams

Attorney Name

Signature

DECEMBER 3, 2001

Date

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 24 and 26 have been amended as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) An ultrasonic motor, comprising: a movable member disposed to undergo movement in response to a drive force; a substrate having a conductor pattern for conveying a drive signal from a drive circuit; a piezoelectric vibrator provided on the substrate for undergoing oscillating movement in response to the drive signal so as to contact the movable member and generate the drive force to drive the movable member; and a pair of support members disposed on the substrate on opposite sides of the piezoelectric vibrator [support member provided on the substrate] for mechanically supporting the piezoelectric vibrator on the substrate and transmitting the drive signal from the conductor pattern to electrodes of the piezoelectric vibrator so that no conductor wires extend from the substrate to connect the drive circuit and the piezoelectric vibrator.

24. (Amended) An ultrasonic motor according to claim 1; [23;] wherein the support members have an L-shaped form, one leg of each support member is fixedly attached to the substrate, and another leg of each support member is fixedly attached to the piezoelectric element.

26. (Amended) An ultrasonic motor according to claim 1; [23;] wherein the support members each have an I-shaped form with upper and lower portions having a larger width than a middle portion, the lower portion of each support member is fixedly attached to the substrate, and the upper portion of each support member is fixedly attached to the piezoelectric element.